

What is claimed is:

1        1.        A method of providing autonomic content load balancing, comprising steps of:  
2                defining a plurality of alternative versions of content to be served, along with values of  
3 one or more conditions under which each of the alternative versions should be selected;  
4                receiving a request for the content;  
5                determining current values of the conditions;  
6                using the determined current values to select one of the alternative versions; and  
7                serving the selected version, responsive to the request.

1        2.        The method according to Claim 1, wherein the alternative versions are different media  
2 types.

1        3.        The method according to Claim 1, wherein the request is for a particular Web page and  
2 the selected content forms a portion of the particular Web page.

1        4.        The method according to Claim 1, wherein the request is for a particular Web page and  
2 the selected content comprises a version of the particular Web page.

1        5.        The method according to Claim 2, wherein the conditions pertain to system/network  
2 conditions.

1        6.        A method of using dynamically selectable content versions, comprising steps of:

2 receiving a request for content having selectable versions;  
3 identifying one or more conditions associated with the selectable versions;  
4 determining current values of the identified conditions; and  
5 using the determined current values to select from among the selectable versions to create  
6 a response to the request.

1 7. The method according to Claim 6, wherein the request is for a Web page and the content  
2 with selectable versions comprises a portion of the Web page.

1 8. The method according to Claim 7, wherein:  
2 the Web page further comprises additional portions having selectable versions;  
3 the identifying and determining steps are performed for each such additional portions; and  
4 the using step uses the selected version of each of the portions when creating the  
5 response.

1 9. The method according to Claim 6, wherein the conditions reflect a current load on system  
2 and/or network resources and the using step selects the selectable version in view of the current  
3 resource load.

1 10. A system for providing autonomic content load balancing, comprising:  
2 means for defining a plurality of alternative versions of content to be served, along with  
3 values of one or more conditions under which each of the alternative versions should be selected;

4 means for receiving a request for the content;  
5 means for determining current values of the conditions;  
6 means for using the determined current values to select one of the alternative versions; and  
7 means for serving the selected version, responsive to the request.

1 11. The system according to Claim 10, wherein the means for determining current values  
2 further comprises means for obtaining measurements collected by an agent.

1 12. A computer program product for using dynamically selectable content versions, the  
2 computer program product embodied on one or more computer-readable media and comprising:

3 computer-readable program code means for receiving a request for content having  
4 selectable versions;

5 computer-readable program code means for identifying one or more conditions associated  
6 with the selectable versions;

7 computer-readable program code means for determining current values of the identified  
8 conditions; and

9 computer-readable program code means for using the determined current values to select  
10 from among the selectable versions to create a response to the request.